Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 17, and ending at line 25, as follows.

--First, a test image is output in order to measure the characteristics of the output device. Fig. 3 illustrates the details of the test image. Each square in Fig. 3 represents one pixel of the image, a white square 30 indicates that the pixel is not printed, and a black square 31 indicates that the pixel is printed. The size of the image is 16 pixels horizontally and 48 pixels vertically, and the test image is printed on the print medium by scanning the printhead of Fig. 2 three times.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 2, and ending at line 4, as follows.

--Steps S73, S74 and S75 are repeated until dots are added to all pixels' pixels positions of the mask. A threshold-value mask is thus generated.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 11, and ending at line 22, as follows.

--First, a test image is output in order to measure the characteristics of the output device. Fig. 10 illustrates the details of the test image. As in Fig. 3, a white square 30 indicates that the pixel is not printed and a black square 31 indicates that the pixel is printed. As will be apparent from Fig. 10, the test image in this embodiment is composed of blocks a to d having patterns that differ from one another. Further, the size of the test image is 48 pixels horizontally and 32 pixels vertically, and the test image is printed on the print medium by scanning the printhead of Fig. 2 two times.--

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at page 17, line 10, and ending at page 17, line 24, as follows.

--At steps S125 and S127, the analyzing processing unit 17 determines whether the average pixel value of the next line exceeds the threshold value TH and successively stores the line numbers for which the average pixel value continually exceeds ~~exceed~~ the threshold value TH.

If a line for which the average pixel value is equal to or less than the threshold value TH is found at step S127 ("YES" at step S127), then the analyzing processing unit 17 calculates the ~~barycenters~~ barycenter C with regard to the line, ~~lines,~~ the line number ~~numbers~~ of which ~~were~~ was stored at step S124, for which the average pixel value continually exceeds ~~exceeded~~ the threshold value TH, and stores the barycenter (step 128). The barycenter C is found in accordance with the following equation:--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 14, and ending at line 16, as follows.

--Steps S73, S74 and S75 are repeated until dots are added to all ~~pixels~~ pixels' positions of the mask. A threshold-value mask is thus generated.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 23, and ending at page 21, line 1, as follows.

--Thus, in accordance with the second embodiment as described above, it is possible to reduce stripes by generating a threshold-value mask that cancels out line-by-line density position deviation due to the characteristics of the printer.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 11, and ending at line 15, as follows.

--In a case where the present invention is applied to the above-mentioned storage medium, program code corresponding to flowcharts (any one or more of the flowcharts shown in Figs. 5, 7 and 12) described earlier would be stored on this storage medium. medium--